

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:85
ANSWERED ON:20.02.2009
NREGS
Francis George Shri K.

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to recast the existing norms of the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS) to include more sectors of work to increase spending in tune with the present fiscal stimulus package;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government would consider the inclusion of replantation and rejuvenation work in the plantation sector under the NREGS; and
- (d) if so, the present status of operation of the said proposals?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DR.RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (d) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 85 to be answered on 20.02.2009

(a) & (b): No, Sir. Works which can be taken up under NREGA are listed in their order of priority in Para 1 of Schedule- I of the Act and are as under:

- (i) water conservation and water harvesting;
- (ii) drought proofing (including Afforestation and tree plantation)
- (iii) irrigation canals including micro and minor irrigation works;
- (iv) provision of irrigation facility to land owned by households belonging to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes or beneficiaries of land reforms or that of the beneficiaries under the Indira Awas Yojana of the Government of India.
- (v) renovation of traditional water bodies including desilting of tanks;
- (vi) land development
- (vii) flood control and protection works including drainage in water logged areas
- (viii) rural connectivity to provide all weather access; and
- (ix) any other work which may be notified by the Central Government in consultation with the State Government.

Sub-para (iv) as given above has been amended vide notification dated 6.3.2007 and the amended provision is as under:

‘Provision of irrigation facility, horticulture plantation and land development facilities on land owned by households belonging to the Scheduled castes and the Scheduled Tribes or to Below Poverty Line families or to beneficiaries of land reforms or to the beneficiaries under the Indira Awas Yojana of the Government of India.’

There is no proposal under consideration of the Government to recast the above mentioned list of permissible works.

(c) & (d): Plantation is a permissible activity under NREGA as mentioned in sub-para

(ii) and amended sub-para

(iv) as indicated above in reply to Parts (a) & (b) of the question. This includes replantation and rejuvenation work.